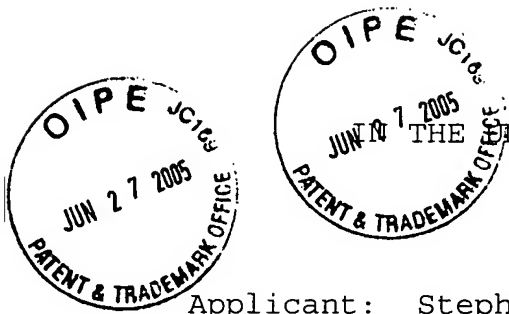


PATENT



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Applicant: Stephen C. Thatcher, et al.

Serial No.: 10/619,017

Date: June 23, 2005

Filed: July 14, 2003

Group Art Unit: 3671

Exam: Arpad F. Kovacs

For: MOWER WITH FLIP UP MOWING DECK

Kansas City, Missouri

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office action mailed March 24, 2005,
kindly amend the above captioned application for patent as
follows: